



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration
Rockville MD 20857

OCT 2 2001

#14

Re: Travatan
Docket No. 01E-0362

The Honorable Q. Todd Dickinson
Director of U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Commissioner for Patents
Box Pat. Ext.
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Director Dickinson:

This is in regard to the application for patent term extension for U.S. Patent No. 5,889,052 filed by Alcon Laboratories, Inc. under 35 U.S.C. § 156. The human drug product claimed by the patent is Travatan (travoprost), which was assigned new drug application (NDA) No. 21-257.

A review of the Food and Drug Administration's official records indicates that this product was subject to a regulatory review period before its commercial marketing or use, as required under 35 U.S.C. § 156(a)(4). Our records also indicate that it represents the first permitted commercial marketing or use of the product, as defined under 35 U.S.C. § 156(f)(1), and interpreted by the courts in *Glaxo Operations UK Ltd. v. Quigg*, 706 F. Supp. 1224 (E.D. Va. 1989), *aff'd*, 894 F. 2d 392 (Fed. Cir. 1990).

The NDA was approved on March 16, 2001, which makes the submission of the patent term extension application on May 15, 2001, timely within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 156(d)(1).

Should you conclude that the subject patent is eligible for patent term extension, please advise us accordingly. As required by 35 U.S.C. § 156(d)(2)(A) we will then determine the applicable regulatory review period, publish the determination in the *Federal Register*, and notify you of our determination.

Please let me know if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely yours,

Jane A. Axelrad
Jane A. Axelrad

Associate Director for Policy
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

cc: Barry L. Copeland
Alcon Laboratories
Intellectual Property Law Counsel
6201 South Freeway
Fort Worth, TX 76134-2099